

Glutarimide Alkaloids and a Terpenoid Benzoquinone from *Cordia globifera*

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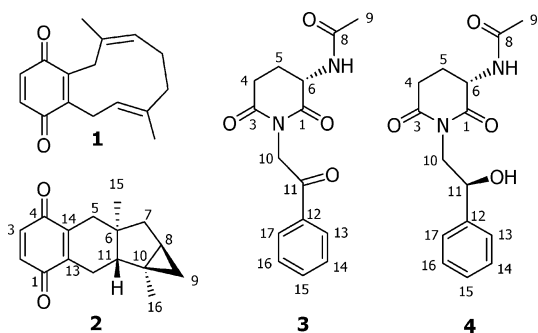
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Three new compounds, a meroterpene (**2**) having a cyclopropane moiety named globiferane and glutarimide alkaloids named cordiarimides A (**3**) and B (**4**), were isolated from the roots of *Cordia globifera*. Compounds **2–4** exhibited weak cytotoxic activity. Cordiarimide B (**4**) exhibited radical scavenging activity, as it inhibited superoxide anion radical formation in the xanthine/xanthine oxidase (XXO) assay, and also suppressed superoxide anion generation in differentiated HL-60 human promyelocytic leukemia cells when induced by 12-*O*-tetradecanoylphorbol-13-acetate (TPA). This is the first report on the presence of glutarimide alkaloids in the genus *Cordia*.

The genus *Cordia*, family Boraginaceae, is native to tropical America, Africa, and Asia, and compounds isolated from this genus have displayed a broad range of biological activities, including antiandrogenic,¹ anti-inflammatory,² antifungal,^{3,4} and larvicidal properties.⁴ *Cordia globifera* W. W. Smith (Boraginaceae) is locally known in Thai as “Sak Hin”. We previously reported the isolation of globiferin (**1**) and some of its derivatives from *C. globifera*, as well as the biomimetic transformation and antimalarial, antimycobacterial, antifungal, and cytotoxic activities of these substances.⁵ Because **1** exhibited significant antimycobacterial activity, with the MIC value of 6.2 $\mu\text{g/mL}$,⁵ we re-collected *C. globifera* for reisolation of **1** and for further detailed studies toward multi-drug-resistant strains of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*. In addition to **1**, we found a new meroterpene displaying a cyclopropane moiety (**2**) and new glutarimide alkaloids (**3** and **4**) from a root extract of *C. globifera*. To our knowledge, this is the first report on the presence of glutarimide alkaloids in the genus *Cordia*.

Extraction of *C. globifera* roots yielded globiferin (**1**) as described in our previous report.⁵ The MeOH-soluble part of the CH_2Cl_2 extract of *C. globifera* roots, separated using Sephadex LH-20 and silica gel chromatographic techniques (see Experimental Section), also yielded previously unknown compounds **2–4**.



Compound **2** had the molecular formula $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{18}\text{O}_2$, as revealed by the ESITOF-MS spectrum. The ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra revealed the presence of a 1,4-benzoquinone unit in **2**, showing signals at δ_{H} 6.70 (1H, d, $J = 11.9$ Hz, H-2) and 6.72 (1H, d, $J =$

11.9 Hz, H-3) and at δ_{C} 187.7 (C-4) and 187.4 (C-1), which were similar to those of **1**.⁵ Upfield ^1H NMR resonances (δ_{H} 0.35 and 0.94; H₂-9) of a nonequivalent methylene suggested that **2** possessed a cyclopropane moiety. The presence of two methyl, four methylene, four methine, and six nonprotonated carbons in **2** was revealed by ^{13}C and DEPT NMR spectra. The ^1H – ^1H COSY spectrum of **2** established the fragment H₂-7/H-8/H₂-9 and also showed couplings between H-2 and H-3 and between H-11 and H-12. Allylic coupling between H₂-5 and H₂-12 was also observed in the ^1H – ^1H COSY spectrum of **2**. The gross structure of **2** was established by the following HMBC correlations: H-2 to C-4 and C-13; H-3 to C-1 and C-14; H₂-5 to C-6, C-7, C-11, and C-15; H-8 to C-11; H₂-7 to C-9, C-10, C-11, and C-15; H₂-9 to C-7, C-10, and C-11; H-11 to C-5, C-6, C-9, C-10, C-13, and C-15; H₂-12 to C-1, C-6, and C-14; H₃-15 to C-5, C-6, C-7, and C-11; and H₃-16 to C-8, C-9, C-10, and C-11. The relative configuration of **2** was assigned by analysis of the NOESY spectrum. No NOESY cross-peak was observed between H-11 and H₃-15, indicating the *trans*-fused ring junction at C-6/C-11. The cyclopropane moiety was coplanar with H-11 because there was an intense NOESY cross-peak between H-9 β (δ_{H} 0.35) and H-11 (δ_{H} 1.15). The NOESY correlations among H-9 β (δ_{H} 0.35), H-7 β (δ_{H} 1.01), and H-5 β (δ_{H} 2.10) suggested that they were in the same (β) plane. The NOESY correlations also indicated that H₃-15 (δ_{H} 0.86), H-5 α (δ_{H} 2.55), H-7 α (δ_{H} 1.99), and H-12 α (δ_{H} 2.25) were coplanar; there were correlations among these protons. It is worth noting that the six- and five-membered-ring fused system of **2** is *trans*, while the six- and six-membered-ring junction of this class of compounds (known as terpenoid benzoquinones, i.e., cordiachromes and cordiaquinols) is *cis*.^{6–8} Normally terpenoid benzoquinones from *Cordia* species have a 6,6-membered ring junction and are optically inactive.^{5–8} Interestingly, **2**, with a 6,5-membered ring junction and a cyclopropane unit, is optically active ($[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{26} -96$). Compound **2**, which was named globiferane, is a derivative of 4,5-dimethoxy-1a,7a-dimethyl-1,1a,1b,2,7,7a,8,8a-octahydrocyclopropa[3,4]cyclopenta[1,2-*b*]naphthalene-3,6-dione, a meroterpenoid benzoquinone previously isolated from *Cordia globosa*.⁹ The optical rotation of globiferane (**2**) was different from that of 4,5-dimethoxy-1a,7a-dimethyl-1,1a,1b,2,7,7a,8,8a-octahydrocyclopropa[3,4]cyclopenta[1,2-*b*]naphthalene-3,6-dione ($[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{20} +4.8$),⁹ however, both compounds share the same relative configuration.

Compound **3** possessed the molecular formula $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$ (deduced from the ESITOF-MS spectrum). The ^1H NMR spectrum of **3** showed signals of a 1-substituted benzene ring (δ_{H} 7.97 (2H, d, $J = 7.5$ Hz, H-13/H-17), 7.63 (1H, t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, H-15), and

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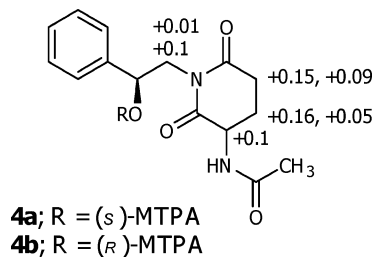


Figure 1. $\Delta\delta$ values [$\delta_{(S)} - \delta_{(R)}$] for the MTPA esters **4a** and **4b**.

7.51 (2H, t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, H-14/H-16)); a methine (δ_{H} 4.73); three nonequivalent methylenes (δ_{H} 1.98–5.27); a methyl group (δ_{H} 2.06); and an exchangeable proton (δ_{H} 6.44). The DEPT and HSQC spectra revealed that **3** contained a methyl, six methine, three methylene, and five quaternary carbons. ^1H and ^{13}C resonances (δ_{H} 4.73; δ_{C} 51.4) of a H-6 methine, together with the coupling between this methine and an exchangeable proton (δ_{H} 6.44, NH) observed in the ^1H – ^1H COSY spectrum, implied that the C-6 methine was attached to a nitrogen atom, possibly through an amide linkage. The ^1H – ^1H COSY spectrum of **3** established the fragment NH/H-6/H-2-5/H-2-4. HMBC correlations from H-2-4 to C-3; H-2-5 to C-1 and C-3; H-6 to C-1 and C-8; NH to C-8; and H-3-9 to C-8 established the *N*-acetylglutamate structure in **3**. Additional HMBC correlations from H-2-10 to C-1, C-3, C-11, and C-12 and from H-13/H-17 to C-11 revealed the structure of **3** as shown, and it was named cordiarimide A. The coupling value ($J_{\text{H-5,H-6}} = 13.0$ Hz) suggested that H-6 was pseudoaxial. Cordiarimide A (**3**) exhibited a negative optical rotation similar to those of crotonimides A and B¹⁰ and julocrotone,¹¹ suggesting that its C-6 configuration was *S*. These glutarimides are derivatives of julocrotone ($[\alpha]_{\text{D}} -9$), a glutarimide alkaloid containing an *L*-glutamic residue in its molecule, which was first isolated from *Julocroton montevidensis*¹² and recently reisolated from *Croton membranaceus*.¹³

Compound **4** was a derivative of **3**, exhibiting the molecular formula $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$ (by ESITOF-MS). The ^1H NMR spectrum of **4** was similar to that of **3**, except for an additional oxygenated methine (δ_{H} 4.90, H-11) in **4**. Analysis of the ^{13}C NMR spectrum revealed that the ketone resonance (δ_{C} 191.4) in **3** was replaced by an oxygenated methine resonance (δ_{C} 72.1) in **4**. Thus, **4** had an OH at C-11 rather than a ketone as in **3**. Key HMBC correlations for cordiarimide B (**4**) were observed from H-4 to C-3; H-5 to C-1; H-6 to C-1 and C-8; H-9 to C-8; H-10 to C-1, C-3, C-11, and C-12; H-11 to C-10, C-12, and C-13/C-17; and H-13/17 to C-11 and C-12. The coupling value ($J_{\text{H-5,H-6}} = 12.8$ Hz) again indicated pseudoaxial orientation of H-6 in **4**. The absolute configuration of the chiral C-11 secondary alcohol in **4** was addressed by a modified Mosher's method;^{14,15} both (*S*)- and (*R*)-MTPA esters **4a** and **4b** were separately prepared and subjected to ^1H NMR analysis. Although $\Delta\delta$ values of the aromatic region could not be calculated due to overlapping signals of the ester **4a** (and **4b**) with those of MTPA, the available $\Delta\delta$ values (Figure 1) implied that the absolute configuration at C-11 of **4**, named cordiarimide B, was likely to be *S*.

Globiferane (**2**) was weakly cytotoxic toward HepG2 (human hepatocellular liver carcinoma), MOLT-3 (acute lymphoblastic leukemia), A549 (human lung carcinoma), and HuCCA-1 (human lung cholangiocarcinoma) cancer cell lines, with respective IC_{50} values of 148.6, 3.7, 148.6, and 66.0 μM . It should be noted that 4,5-dimethoxy-1a,7a-dimethyl-1,1a,1b,2,7,7a,8,8a-octahydro-cyclopropa[3,4]cyclopenta[1,2-*b*]naphthalene-3,6-dione, a derivative of **2**, was reported to display significant cytotoxic activity against several cancer cell lines through DNA synthesis inhibition.⁹ Cordiarimides A (**3**) and B (**4**) showed weak cytotoxicity against the MOLT-3 cell line, with IC_{50} values of 145.3 and 44.5 μM , respectively, and were inactive toward HepG2, A549, and HuCCA-1

cell lines. Cordiarimides A (**3**) and B (**4**) inhibited superoxide anion radical formation in the xanthine/xanthine oxidase (XXO) assay, with respective IC_{50} values of 54.1 and 21.7 μM . Cordiarimide B (**4**) suppressed superoxide anion generation (54% at 100 μM) in differentiated HL-60 human promyelocytic leukemia cells when induced by 12-*O*-tetradecanoylphorbol-13-acetate (TPA). These radical scavenging activities suggest that both **3** and **4** may have potential for cancer chemoprevention.

Glutarimide alkaloids isolated from *Croton cuneatus* were previously reported to exhibit cytotoxic activity.¹¹ Glutarimide alkaloids have been found in the genus *Croton*,^{10,11,13,16,17} except for julocrotone from *Julocroton montevidensis*.¹² This is the first report on the presence of glutarimide alkaloids in the genus *Cordia*. It should be noted that plants of the genus *Cordia* are dioecious, having separate male and female plants. The root sample from our previous study was from a female plant, while the sample reported here was from a male plant, suggesting that glutarimide alkaloids may be present only in the male plant of *C. globifera*.

Experimental Section

General Experimental Procedures. Optical rotations were measured at the sodium D line (590 nm) on a JASCO DIP-370 digital polarimeter. UV–vis spectra were obtained using a Shimadzu UV-1700 PharmaSpec spectrophotometer. FTIR data were obtained using a universal attenuated total reflectance (UATR) attachment on a Perkin-Elmer Spectrum One spectrometer. ^1H , ^{13}C , and 2-D NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker AVANCE 600 NMR spectrometer (operating at 600 MHz for ^1H and 150 MHz for ^{13}C). ESITOF-MS were determined using a Bruker MicroTOF_{LC} spectrometer.

Plant Material. Roots of *C. globifera* were collected from Nakhon Sawan Province, Thailand, in February 2008. Authentication of *C. globifera* was carried out in our previous study,⁵ and its voucher specimen (no. CRI 566) was deposited at the Laboratory of Natural Products, Chulabhorn Research Institute.

Extraction and Isolation. Roots of *C. globifera* (0.7 kg) were chopped, dried in the shade, ground, and soaked in CH_2Cl_2 (three days) at room temperature. The CH_2Cl_2 extract was evaporated to yield a sticky residue (3 g), which was partitioned between hexane and MeOH, yielding a hexane-soluble extract (1.5 g) and a MeOH-soluble extract (1.4 g). The hexane-soluble extract was purified following our method described previously,⁵ to yield globiferin (**1**, 70 mg). The MeOH-soluble extract was separated by Sephadex LH-20 column chromatography (CC), affording 21 fractions. Combination of similar fractions was guided by TLC to provide seven subfractions (F1–F7). Fraction F4 was separated by silica gel CC, sequentially eluted with a mixture of CH_2Cl_2 /hexane (1:1) and $\text{Me}_2\text{CO}/\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$, yielding 3.4 mg of **2**. Fraction F2 was subjected to Sephadex LH-20 CC affording four fractions (F21–F24). Fraction F23 was further separated by Sephadex LH-20 CC to give 12 fractions (F231–F2312). Fraction F235 was glutarimide **4** (64.3 mg). Fractions F236–F239 were combined and separated by Sephadex LH-20 CC, followed by preparative TLC (developed with a mixture of $\text{Me}_2\text{CO}/\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$, 1:3) to afford 10.3 mg of glutarimide **3**.

Globiferane (2): yellow oil; $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25} -96$ (c 0.11, CHCl_3); UV (MeOH) λ_{max} (log ϵ) 205 (2.83), 290 (sh), 338 (1.44) nm; IR (UATR) ν_{max} 2923, 2852, 1740, 1653, 1462, 1376, 1271, 1160 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 600 MHz) δ 6.70 (1H, d, $J = 11.9$ Hz, H-2), 6.72 (1H, d, $J = 11.9$ Hz, H-3), 2.81 (1H, ddd, $J = 2.5, 5.2, 19.1$ Hz, H-12 β), 2.55 (1H, dd, $J = 2.2, 18.9$ Hz, H-5 α), 2.25 (1H, m, H-12 α), 2.10 (1H, ddd, $J = 2.5, 2.8, 18.9$ Hz, H-5 β), 1.99 (1H, dd, $J = 6.8, 12.6$ Hz, H-7 α), 1.24 (1H, m, H-8), 1.22 (3H, s, H-16), 1.15 (1H, dd, $J = 5.2, 13.1$ Hz, H-11), 1.01 (1H, dd, $J = 3.4, 12.6$ Hz, H-7 β), 0.94 (1H, dd, $J = 4.0, 8.3$ Hz, H-9 α), 0.86 (3H, s, H-15), 0.35 (1H, t, $J = 4.0$ Hz, H-9 β); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 150 MHz) δ 187.7 (C=O, C-4), 187.4 (C=O, C-1), 142.7 (C, C-13), 142.6 (C, C-14), 136.5 (CH, C-3), 136.3 (CH, C-2), 50.2 (CH, C-11), 49.1 (C, C-6), 44.8 (CH₂, C-7), 36.4 (CH₂, C-5), 33.4 (CH₂, C-9), 26.6 (CH, C-8), 26.4 (C, C-10), 22.7 (CH₂, C-12), 19.6 (CH₃, C-15), 19.1 (CH₃, C-16); ESITOF-MS m/z 243.1379 [$\text{M} + \text{H}$]⁺ (calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{19}\text{O}_2$, 243.1385).

Cordiarimide A (3): light brown, amorphous solid; $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25} -29$ (c 0.36, CHCl_3); UV (MeOH) λ_{max} (log ϵ) 202 (2.15), 242 (1.84) nm; IR (UATR) ν_{max} 2925, 1735, 1681, 1535, 1404, 1368, 1332, 1227, 1165, 1015, 992, 752, 734, 689 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 600 MHz) δ 7.97 (2H, d, $J = 7.5$ Hz, H-13/H-17), 7.63 (1H, t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, H-15), 7.51

(2H, t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, H-14/H-16), 6.44 (1H, d, $J = 5.3$ Hz, NH), 5.27 (1H, d, $J = 17.0$ Hz, H-10a), 5.18 (1H, d, $J = 17.0$ Hz, H-10b), 4.73 (1H, ddd, $J = 5.4, 5.4, 13.0$ Hz, H-6), 2.95 (1H, ddd, $J = 2.5, 4.7, 18.0$ Hz, H-4eq), 2.86 (1H, ddd, $J = 5.3, 13.4, 18.0$ Hz, H-4ax), 2.59 (1H, m, H-5ax), 2.06 (3H, s, H-9), 1.98 (1H, ddd, $J = 4.7, 13.0, 26.2$ Hz, H-5eq); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl₃, 150 MHz) δ 191.4 (C=O, C-11), 171.8 (C, C-8), 170.9 (C, C-3), 170.3 (C, C-1), 134.6 (C, C-12), 133.9 (CH, C-15), 128.9 (CH, C-14/C-16), 128.0 (CH, C-13/C-17), 51.4 (CH, C-6), 46.4 (CH₂, C-10), 31.5 (CH₂, C-4), 24.4 (CH₂, C-5), 23.1 (CH₃, C-9); ESITOF-MS m/z 311.0997 [M + Na]⁺ (calcd for C₁₅H₁₆N₂O₄Na, 311.1008).

Cordiarimide B (4): light brown, amorphous solid; $[\alpha]_D^{26} +20$ (c 0.53, CHCl₃); UV (MeOH) λ_{max} (log ϵ) 209 (1.97), 257 (sh) nm; IR (UATR) ν_{max} 3344, 2924, 1730, 1658, 1535, 1424, 1374, 1330, 1163, 1096, 1060, 1027, 756, 734, 701 cm⁻¹; ^1H NMR (CDCl₃, 600 MHz) δ 7.39 (2H, d, $J = 7.5$ Hz, H-13/H-17), 7.36 (2H, t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, H-14/H-16), 7.29 (1H, t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, H-15), 6.67 (1H, br d, $J = 3.0$ Hz, NH), 4.90 (1H, dd, $J = 2.8, 9.5$ Hz, H-11), 4.59 (1H, ddd, $J = 6.3, 6.3, 12.8$ Hz, H-6), 4.14 (1H, dd, $J = 9.6, 13.7$ Hz, H-10a), 3.94–3.99 (1H, m, H-10b), 2.84 (1H, dd, $J = 2.1, 18.1$ Hz, H-4eq), 2.76 (1H, ddd, $J = 5.4, 13.5, 18.5$ Hz, H-4ax), 2.39–2.44 (1H, m, H-5ax), 2.05 (3H, s, H-9), 1.81–1.89 (1H, m, H-5eq); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl₃, 150 MHz) δ 172.8 (C, C-1), 172.0 (C, C-3), 170.7 (C, C-8), 141.3 (C, C-12), 128.5 (CH, C-14/C-16), 128.0 (CH, C-15), 125.8 (CH, C-13/C-17), 72.1 (CH, C-11), 51.3 (CH, C-6), 47.6 (CH₂, C-10), 31.6 (CH₂, C-4), 24.0 (CH₂, C-5), 23.0 (CH₃, C-9); ESITOF-MS m/z 313.1159 [M + Na]⁺ (calcd for C₁₅H₁₈N₂O₄Na, 313.1164).

Preparation of (R)- and (S)-MTPA Esters of Cordiarimide B (4).

To a dry CH₂Cl₂ solution (0.5 mL) of **4** (6.9 mg) and *N,N*-(dimethylamino)pyridine (5.5 mg) were added dry triethylamine (0.5 mL) and (S)-(+)- α -methoxy- α -(trifluoromethyl)phenylacetyl chloride (MT-PACl) (10 μL). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 24 h, evaporated, and purified by HPLC (C₁₈-Cosmosil MS-II, 10 \times 250 mm; eluted with a mixture of MeCN/H₂O (47:53); flow rate 4.0 mL/min) to give (R)-MTPA ester (**4b**, 4.6 mg, t_R 21 min). Compound **4** (6.4 mg) was treated with (R)-(-)-MTPACl (10 μL) in the same manner as described above to give (S)-MTPA ester (**4a**, 4.0 mg, t_R 23 min). (S)-MTPA ester (**4a**): ^1H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.42–7.33 (10H, m, aromatic signals of MTPA and **4a**), 6.23 (1H, d, $J = 5.6$ Hz, NH), 6.19 (1H, dd, $J = 9.6, 3.9$ Hz, H-11), 4.53 (1H, dd, $J = 14.0, 9.6$ Hz, H-10a), 4.48 (1H, dt, $J = 13.0, 5.3$ Hz, H-6), 4.00 (1H, dd, $J = 14.0, 3.9$ Hz, H-10b), 3.51 (3H, s, OCH₃ of MTPA), 2.83 (1H, ddd, $J = 18.0, 4.4, 2.4$ Hz, H-4eq), 2.65 (1H, ddd, $J = 18.0, 13.6, 5.4$ Hz, H-4ax), 2.47 (1H, m, H-5ax), 2.077 (3H, s, NCOCH₃), 1.65 (1H, m, H-5a). ESITOF-MS (positive ion mode): m/z 529.1562 [M + Na]⁺ (calcd for C₂₅H₂₅F₃N₂NaO₆, 529.1556). (R)-MTPA ester (**4b**): ^1H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.44–7.32 (10H, m, aromatic signals of MTPA and **4b**), 6.16 (1H, dd, $J = 10.0, 3.9$ Hz, H-11), 6.15 (1H, NH), 4.52 (1H, dd, $J = 14.0, 10.0$ Hz, H-10a), 4.38 (1H, dt, $J = 13.0, 5.3$ Hz, H-6), 3.90 (1H, dd, $J = 14.0, 3.9$ Hz, H-10b), 3.45 (3H, s, OCH₃ of MTPA), 2.74 (1H, ddd, $J = 18.0, 4.4, 2.2$ Hz, H-4eq), 2.50 (1H, ddd, $J = 18.0, 13.7, 5.4$ Hz, H-4ax), 2.42 (1H, m, H-5ax), 2.078 (3H, s, NCOCH₃), 1.49 (1H, m, H-5eq). ESITOF-MS (positive ion mode): m/z 529.1558 [M + Na]⁺ (calcd for C₂₅H₂₅F₃N₂NaO₆, 529.1556).

Cytotoxicity Assay. Cytotoxic activity for HepG2, HuCCA-1, and A549 cancer cell lines was evaluated with the MTT assay,¹⁸ while that for MOLT-3 and HL-60 cell lines was assessed using the XTT assay.¹⁹ Doxorubicin was used as the reference drug, and respective IC₅₀ values of 0.37, 0.64, 0.40, and 0.04 μM were observed for the HepG2, HuCCA-1, A549, and MOLT-3 cell lines.

Inhibition of Superoxide Anion Radical Formation by Xanthine/Xanthine Oxidase (XO Assay). The XO assay was performed following the method essentially described by Gerhauser et al.²⁰ Superoxide dismutase was used as a control. Allopurinol, the reference compound, inhibited xanthine oxidase (IXO) with an IC₅₀ value of 3.0

μM . Inhibition of superoxide anion radical formation was measured only when the tested compounds did not inhibit xanthine oxidase.

Inhibition of 12-O-Tetradecanoylphorbol-13-acetate (TPA)-Induced Superoxide Anion Radical Generation in Differentiated HL-60 cells (HL-60 Assay). TPA-induced superoxide anion radical formation was detected in differentiated HL-60 human promyelocytic leukemia cells by photometric determination of cytochrome *c* reduction, following the method previously described by Gerhauser et al.²⁰ Superoxide dismutase was used as a positive control. Only the test samples with cell viability more than 50% were considered for the calculation of scavenging potential.

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Supporting Information Available: ^1H , ^{13}C , and 2D NMR spectra of **2–4**. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at <http://pubs.acs.org>.

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